

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY


(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 08 MAY 2006

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Applicant's or agent's file reference PU040011	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/US2005/001718	International filing date (day/month/year) 20.01.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 20.01.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. H04N5/222 G11B27/34			
Applicant THOMSON LICENSING S.A. et al			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 5 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (Indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>			
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			
Date of submission of the demand 10.08.2005		Date of completion of this report 05.05.2006	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465		Authorized officer Brod, R Telephone No. +49 89 2399-8962	



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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements* of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-6, 8-14 as originally filed
7 received on 17.08.2005 with letter of 10.08.2005

Claims, Numbers

1-17 received on 17.08.2005 with letter of 10.08.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1-7 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application,
☒ claims Nos. 3-17

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):
- ☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):
- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*).
- ☒ no international search report has been established for the said claims Nos. 3-17
- ☐ a meaningful opinion could not be formed without the sequence listing; the applicant did not, within the prescribed time limit:
- ☐ furnish a sequence listing on paper complying with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions, and such listing was not available to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.
- ☐ furnish a sequence listing in electronic form complying with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions, and such listing was not available to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.
- ☐ pay the required late furnishing fee for the furnishing of a sequence listing in response to an invitation under Rules 13ter.1(a) or (b) and 13ter.2.
- ☐ a meaningful opinion could not be formed without the tables related to the sequence listings; the applicant did not, within the prescribed time limit, furnish such tables in electronic form complying with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions, and such tables were not available to the International Preliminary Examining Authority in a form and manner acceptable to it.
- ☐ the tables related to the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing, if in electronic form only, do not comply with the technical requirements provided for in Annex C-bis of the Administrative Instructions.
- ☒ See separate sheet for further details

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-2
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-2
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-2
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The subject-matter of claims 3 to 17 (teleprompter ect.) has not been searched.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US2003/0214605 (Snyder)

D2: WO03/014949 (Holtz)

D3: TURNER R R: "1,001 QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE DECIDING ON A NONLINEAR VIDEO EDITINGSYSTEM" SMPTE JOURNAL, SMPTE INC. SCARSDALE, N.Y, US, vol. 103, no. 3, 1 March 1994 (1994-03-01), pages 160-173, XP000445583 ISSN: 0036-1682

D4: US-A-5 864 366 (YEO ET AL) 26 January 1999 (1999-01-26)

D5: US 2003/218696 A1 (BAGGA AMIT ET AL) 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27)

D6: EP-A-0 915 469 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD) 12 May 1999 (1999-05-12)

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1. It concerns an auto keying technique for use in an automated production system similar to that described at Pages 2-3 of applicants' specification. As best described at paragraph 0071 of D1, the production system stores one or more configuration parameters to a configuration file, with each parameter specifying attributes of a desired key effect. The parameters can include the identity of the background media source and the fill source for example. Execution of a key parameter serves to route the selected key source to the keyer for so that upon selection of the keyer by a director, the desired scene appears.

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known rundown list in that the memory objects (S-MEMs) of applicants' claimed invention represent intelligent objects that store the state of a particular production device, such that upon execution of the 5-MEM, the production device enters a known static state. The configuration parameters

of Reference D1 do not store the state of a particular piece of production equipment. At best, the configuration parameters described in Paragraph 0071 of D1 specified desired properties of a key effect, but do not themselves cause execution of effects by the keyer. The keyer is selected separately from accession of the configuration parameters, as evidenced by the separate steps of parameter accession during step 109 of FIG. 1 and keyer selection during step 112. (See Paragraph 75 of D1). Indeed, the accession of configuration parameters, by itself in Reference D1 doesn't alter the state of keyer because no keyer is designated to receive such parameters until keyer selection occurs later during step 112. D1, paragraph 124, teaches the use of a show template in the form of a file having a filename for generic electronic rundown, being however bare of any separate S-MEMS.

The subject-matter of claims 1 and 2 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as providing intelligent objects for the automatization of the show production.

The solution to this problem proposed in claims 1 and 2 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

The invention provides templates for the operation of television production devices, the templates being represented by parametrized state memory objects for producing a show, e.g., a television show, using at least one production device, such as a television camera, a videotape recorder, video switcher and the like having a plurality of states, each state corresponding to an operation executable by that device. Each state of the at least one production device is stored as a state memory object, referred to as an S-MEM, execution of each S-MEM causes an associated production device to execute at least one operation to generate a scene. The S-MEMS undergo parameterization in accordance with the scene each S-MEM generates, thus allowing a director to select those S-MEMS associated with a particular type of scene. In response to selection of a particular S-MEM in accordance with its parameterization, the S-MEM undergoes execution to cause the least one production device to execute the operation associated with that S-MEM to yield the scene of interest.

D2 also does not teach or suggest the features of applicants' invention recited in newly submitted claims 1-17. At best, Reference 132 describes a system and method for

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receiving multimedia Content produced by an automated production system for delivery over the Internet or similar type of data network. A show rundown undergoes execution by an automated video production system to produce a traditional show, in the form of a production file. Concurrently with the execution of the show rundown, a shadow rundown also undergoes execution to produce an electronic show from which segments undergo selection for an on-demand show.

D3 disclose a parametric post production and editing with an EMC storyboard.

D4 discloses shots and collections of frames with anchorpersons for a scene.

D5 discloses grouping together the most often shared scenes with anchor persons of scenes.

D6 discloses parametrized scene editing including post production with fades, wipes etc.